

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action, dated December 13, 2010 in the above-identified application.

The independent claim 17 has been amended to further clarify that the method forms a pressurized metered dose inhaler. Support for this amendment is found throughout the pending application and, at least, at paragraphs [0001], [0021] and [0066]-[0067] of the pending application.

Claims 17, 19-21, 24 and 25 are pending.

§103 Rejections

Claims **17, 19-21, 24 and 25** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Leys et al., (US 2002-0036017) in view of McPeak et al., (US 6880808). Applicants disagree.

The claims have been amended to further clarify that the method forms a pressurized metered dose inhaler. The method specifically recites disposing the valve stem in a pressurized metered dose inhaler. The cited art does not disclose or suggest this.

In addition, Applicant respectfully reasserts and submits that McPeak does not teach, suggest or describe using PAEK for molding “a valve stem that has enough mechanical and/or thermal stress resistance to withstand use as a metering valve...[s]uch stresses may be imparted by the repeated lateral movement of these elements together as a single unit... and in order to provide adequate chemical and/or mechanical bonding between the elongate stem element and the sealing element.”

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance.
Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Allowance of claims 17, 19-21, 24 and 25, as amended, at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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